THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d) The number of vacancies indicated by the U.P.S.C. at the time of notifying the Examination is only an approximate indication of the overall intake of all Services covered by Civil Services Examination. Though the exact number of vacanceis to be filled in by different services is finalised only before the declaration of the results, there may not be any significant change to the over all figure of 850, indicated in the advertisement for the Civil Services Examination.

Allocation of Essential Commodities to Bihar

*256. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present monthly allocation of essential commodities such as wheat, rice, sugar and edible oils to the State of Bihar for distribution through Public Distribution System in the State;

(b) whether Government propose to raise the allocation of such items to the State in view of prevailing drought conditions in some parts of Bihar; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The allocations to Bihar for the month of April, 1992 for the Public Distribution System were 15000 tonnes of rice, 42000 tonnes of wheat, 35132 tonnes of levy sugar and 1500 tonnes of imported edible oil.

(b) and (c) Allocations of foodgrains and other PDS items are made on a month to month basis taking into account the demand from the State|U.Ts. including Bihar, availability of stocks in the Central Pool, seasonal factors and *inter-se* requirements of States|U.Ts. While the realistic needs of the States|U.Ts. are taken into account for allocations of commodities for distribution under the PDS, the allocations of PDS items are supplemental to the market availability of the items and are not intended to meet the entire demand of the State Governmens|U.T. Administrations.

Application by Larsen & Toubro for setting up Export Oriented Unit at Kalahandi in Orissa

*257. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Larsen & Toubro Limited has submitted an application to Government for permission to issue Letter of Intent in their favour to set up a 100 per cent Export Oriented Unit to produce one million tonne per annum of Metllaurgical Aluminia in Kalahandi district of Orissa;

(b) if so, whether permission has been accorded; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Under the 100% Export Oriented Scheme, units are required to be phycally custom-bonded Since physical custom bonding in extensive mining areas may be difficult, Government (in the Ministry of Mines) are examining ways & means to overcome this problem and have yet to take a final decision in this regard.